



Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

May 19, 2009

**Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors**

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The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY ULTRASOUND
SYSTEM FOR HARBOR-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 2)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT:

Authorize fixed asset purchase of an echocardiography ultrasound system.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find this action exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this letter and in the record of the project.
2. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to proceed with the solicitation and purchase of one echocardiography ultrasound system because this purchase request will exceed the \$250,000 fixed asset threshold established by your Board and requires your approval to move forward with the solicitation and acquisition process.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of this action will allow the Department of Health Services (DHS) to acquire an echocardiography ultrasound system for Harbor-UCLA Medical Center (Harbor-UCLA) and authorize the County Purchasing Agent to proceed with the acquisition process and subsequent purchase order award for the equipment. DHS will request the Internal Services Department (ISD) to include in the bid a price for a four year service warranty in order to lock in amore advantageous rate for ongoing service. DHS will return to your Board for approval of the contract for the extended warranty period.

The equipment is needed to support the Cardiovascular Open Access Rapid Evaluation (CORE) Program at Harbor-UCLA. The CORE Program was approved by your Board on May 6, 2008 and opened for service on October 6, 2008. With the purchase of this piece of equipment, the CORE Program will be fully operational. The echocardiography ultrasound system will facilitate the evaluation of low and intermediate risk cardiology (e.g., acute coronary syndrome and acute decompensated heart failure) patients presenting for emergency services and expedite stabilizing treatment. Additional benefits are improved clinical efficiency and improved emergency room patient flow.

The system provides high definition imaging to help physicians better diagnose heart disease. The system provides the physicians the ability to read the ultrasound images while at the patient's bedside and this assists with treatment decisions and monitoring treatment success. The technological advantages of this system feature extraordinary levels of two-dimensional image quality and measurements of cardiac function and anatomy and live three-dimensional imaging of the beating heart.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support Goal 1, Operational Effectiveness, and Goal 4, Health and Mental Health, of the County's Strategic Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The estimated cost of the echocardiography ultrasound system is approximately \$393,000. Sufficient funding is included in DHS' Fiscal Year 2008-09 Final Budget for the acquisition of the equipment.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On October 16, 2001, your Board approved the classification categories for fixed assets and new requirements for major fixed asset acquisitions requiring County departments to obtain Board approval to purchase or finance equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000, or greater, prior to submitting their request to the Internal Services Department (ISD) Purchasing Agent.

Consistency with DHS System Redesign

These actions meet DHS' strategic goals by improving health care provided by DHS and enhancing the health of the residents of Los Angeles County.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT DOCUMENTATION

This project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15301 (a) and the County of Los

Angeles Revised Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines as specified in Appendix C, Class 1, Subsection (d) adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987. Under this categorical exemption, operation, repair, or minor alteration of existing public structures, facilities and mechanical equipment, involving negligible or no expansion of use, including interior and exterior alterations of a building involving such things as interior partitions, exterior parapets, placement of walls, veneer facings and installation of false or drop ceilings, plumbing and electrical conveyances and heating and refrigeration systems, are exempt.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

This is a commodity purchase under the statutory authority of the County Purchasing Agent. The purchase will be requisitioned through, and accomplished by the Purchasing Agent in accordance with the County's purchasing policies and procedures, established by ISD.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The equipment will support the implementation of the CORE Program at Harbor-UCLA. Emergency medicine and cardiology physicians are collaborating to identify appropriate cardiac patients who meet inclusion criteria for the CORE Program.

CONCLUSION

When approved, DHS requires three signed copies of the Board's action.

Respectfully submitted,



FoD John F. Schunhoff, Ph.D.
Interim Director

JFS:rf

c: Chief Executive Officer
Acting County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Auditor Controller
Internal Services Department

Echocardiography BL